

IN THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-39 (Canceled)

40. (Previously presented) A device comprising:

unauthorized separation detection means arranged to detect release of a releasable connector connecting the device to a person; and

control means, having a first mode in which whenever the releasable connector is released, the control means effects at least partial disablement of the device in response to the release of the releasable connector.

41. (Previously presented) The device as claimed in claim 40, wherein the releasable connector comprises a strap.

42. (Previously presented) The device as claimed in claim 40, wherein the releasable connector is released by severance.

43. (Previously presented) The device as claimed in claim 40, wherein the unauthorized separation detection means detects the interruption of a closed conductive path via the releasable connector.

44. (Previously presented) The device as claimed in claim 40, wherein the device comprises a cellular radio transceiver.

45. (Previously presented) The device as claimed in claim 44, wherein the control means is arranged to effect at least partial disablement of the device by controlling the cellular radio transceiver to transmit a disabling message instructing the at least partial disablement of the device.

46. (Previously presented) The device as claimed in claim 40, wherein the device is or comprises a cellular mobile telephone for operation in a cellular communications network and the control means is arranged to effect at least partial disablement of the device by

sending a disabling message to the network instructing the network to disable normal operation of the telephone in the network.

47. (Previously presented) The device as claimed in claim 46, wherein the mobile telephone comprises a handset and a replaceable card, which enables the handset to operate in the network, and the network is responsive to the disabling message sent by the mobile telephone to disable the card from normal use in the network and/or to disable the handset from normal use in the network.

48. (Previously presented) A device, comprising:
a detector configured to detect release of a releasable connector connecting the device to a person; and
a controller having a first mode in which whenever the releasable connector is released, the controller effects at least partial disablement of the device in response to the release of the releasable connector.

49. (Previously presented) The device as claimed in claim 48, wherein the releasable connector comprises a strap.

50. (Previously presented) The device as claimed in claim 48, wherein the releasable connector is released by severance.

51. (Previously presented) The device as claimed in claim 64, wherein the detector is configured to detect the interruption of a closed conductive path via the releasable connector.

52. (Previously presented) The device as claimed in claim 48, further comprising a radio transmitter wherein the controller is configured, in response to release of the releasable connector, to control the radio transmitter to send a disabling message instructing the at least partial disablement of the device.

53. (Previously presented) The device as claimed in claim 48, wherein the device is or comprises a cellular mobile telephone having a radio transmitter for operation in a cellular communications network and the controller is configured to control the radio transmitter to send a disabling message to the network instructing the network to disable normal operation of the telephone in the network.

Claims 54-58 (Canceled)

59. (Withdrawn) A device wearable by a person comprising:

a detector arranged to detect the unauthorized separation of the device from a further device by detecting the diminution of a radio link between the device and the further device; and

a controller arranged to effect partial disablement of the further device in response to the unauthorized separation of the device and the further device, by controlling a transmitter to transmit a radio command to the further device.

60. (Withdrawn) The device as claimed in claim 59, wherein the further device comprises a cellular radio transceiver.

61. (Withdrawn) The device as claimed in claim 60, wherein, in response to receiving the radio command from the device, a controller of the further device controls the cellular radio transceiver to transmit a disable message instructing the at least partial disablement of the further device.

62. (Withdrawn) The device as claimed in claim 59, wherein the further device is a mobile telephone comprising a handset, a replaceable card and a controller, and in response to receiving the radio command, the controller is arranged to lock the handset to the replaceable card.

63. (Canceled)

64. (Previously presented) The device as claimed in claim 48, further comprising the releasable connector.

65. (Canceled)

66. (Withdrawn) The device as claimed in claim 59, wherein the counterpart device is a mobile telephone that is operable to make emergency calls when it is partially disabled.

67. (Canceled)

68. (Withdrawn) The device as claimed in claim 59, wherein when the further device is partially disabled, it is only capable of restricted use.

69. (Previously presented) The device as claimed in claim 40, wherein the control means has a second, operable, mode in which it does not respond to the release of the releasable connector.

70. (Previously presented) The device as claimed in claim 48, wherein the controller has a second, operable, mode in which it does not respond to release of the releasable connector.

71. (Previously presented) The device as claimed in claim 69, wherein the first and second modes are user selectable.

72. (Previously presented) The device as claimed in claim 70, wherein the first and second modes are user selectable.

73. (Withdrawn) The device as claimed in claim 48, wherein the releasable connector is a neck strap.

74. (Previously presented) The device as claimed in claim 48, wherein the releasable connector is a neck strap.

75. (Previously presented) The device as claimed in claim 48, wherein the releasable connector is a wrist strap.

76. (Previously presented) The device as claimed in claim 48, wherein the releasable connector has an inherent weakness, such that it is configured to break when the device is grabbed.

77. (Previously presented) A method, comprising:

detecting the unauthorized separation of a device from a person, while the device is in a first mode, by detecting the release of a releasable connector connecting the device to the person, and

effecting at least partial disablement of the device directly in response to the release of the releasable connector, so that the device is at least partially disabled whenever the releasable is not connected to the device.

78. (Previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 77, wherein the releasable connector comprises a strap.

79. (Previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 77, wherein the unauthorized separation of the device from the person is detected by detecting severance of the releasable connector.

80. (Previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 77, wherein at least partial disablement of the device is effected by transmitting a radio frequency disabling message from the device, the radio frequency disabling message instructing the at least partial disablement of the device.
81. (Previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 80, wherein the radio frequency disabling message is sent to a network instructing the network to disable normal operation of the device in the network.